

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (Tuesday excepted), is the paper most widely circulated among the British Colonies.

Resident Subscribers may have the same left at furnishing their address at the Office of Publication, at 20 cents per week, payable to the

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY, Ltd., 100 Water Street, in addition to their stock of news and general literature, receive special orders for documents with dates and details, at a flat charge on San Francisco prices.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

The elements are not always sympathetic in their relations toward man. Many a grand fete—many a royal gathering as well as village festival—has been cheated of its anticipated pleasure by the frosts of nature. There is indeed no especial immunity, even in our holidays, from "blustering Boreas" with his damp-diluting garments. One day there is, however, above all others which we have been almost accustomed to regard as an exception to the rule, and took upon it as a day as sacred that on its appearance even the boisterous wind itself would blow more gently, and the clouds be more receptive of their moisture. Our impressions have, however, been moderately shaken. Christmas visited us yesterday morning, like the ghost of Hamlet, in a shape incongruous—so different from the ordinarily accepted idea of the day—that we saw why the wilful white-haired old man must with a sourly reception from even his best of friends. Tradition is powerful in its influence. The mind cannot accept with any degree of satisfaction the roaring wind, the pitiless rain, the placid streets, and the much-admired traveler adjuncts of the glorious 25th of December, and yet such has been the accompaniment of Christmas this year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. The clear, frosty atmosphere, stimulating the body to healthful exertion—bringing to light again the "last rose of summer," and planting it with all its unwithered flowers and unfaded bloom, in the cheek of youth; the crisp snow, trampled under foot, giving forth its remonstrance in a music of its own; and the joyous spirit of man, contrasting in this instance not inharmoniously with the "solent stillness" of surrounding nature; this is the Christmas of tradition—the holiday of boyish memory and childhood association; but it is not the Christmas of yesterday. Whether, however, the holidays of the declining year come to us in their time-honored mantle of snow or in their less attractive garb of mud, let us prize them, and deadly too. Let us prize them not only for their associations, and as links that connect us with the over-passing past, but as wise provisions in the every day life of man.

It requires no laborious demonstration to prove that the world is getting more materialistic in its philosophy and in its life day by day. The Gradgrind school of hard facts is crushing out one by one the more ethereal parts of our nature. From the superstitions of the middle ages civilization has leaped to a hard, unimaginative uniformity. From revelling in an era of poetry it has gone to the opposite extreme and embraced an age of mathematics. Our lives are now modelled by Bacon and regulated by Euclid. If we speculate, it is not upon the wonders of creation, or the great unthatched future, but on real estate and damaged flour. If we go to hear a dissertation on the Gospel, we are working out before the preacher's face, the arithmetical calculation of the profits on the last sale of goods or the anticipated gain of the next purchase. "If we go to dinner, we do not think of a bounteous Providence, but mark our digestion by the thoughts that one of our creditors is about to levant, or that one of these stock in which we have speculated is falling in the market. We have got into a groove in fact of the most insatiable worldly-mindedness, and, like the force of a continuous current, every day sees the channel becoming deeper and deeper, increasing our difficulties to look at things in a higher or more spiritual light. Macklin was horrified at the Yankees who saw nothing in the Falls of Niagara but a boundless waste of water power; yet it looks upon much greater sights than Niagara with indifference—views "the noblest of God," with a worldiness far catastrophing the speculative propensities of the New Engander, and which turns the human being into a money-making machine, grovelling in the depths of low desires and despotic ambitions, content that the heavens should fall if it can only make its cent per cent.

As the first day of the week is intended, besides giving rest to the weary body, to take us away from our mundane pursuits, and teach us that there is a higher and nobler destiny for man than accumulating a few gold or silver coins, so the holiday steps in to make another gap in our business vocations by turning our attention to recreation and to the cultivation of the best feelings—humanly—the love of our fellowmen. We cannot of course object to human industry, ingenuity, or the desire to be rich; it is to these qualities we are indebted in a high degree for this advancement of mankind. It is to Lord Bacon, with all his material views, that we are indebted for most of those great discoveries which have made man in one generation a creature more powerful than our forefathers ever dreamt of. What Watt did for steam, Bacon did for thought—he showed how it could be turned to the best advantage, and the world has profited, in a world of sense at least, by the teaching. But man has other and higher qualities, than those brought out in the turmoil of every day life. To make a place of leisure to do the work of a hundred, or a thousand hours we no doubt a grand achievement—to live amidst the splendors of wealth and luxury, is a state of being coveted by most of us; yet we know that neither condition is in itself at all promotive of happiness, of peace of mind, or even of bodily health. These are the qualities however above all others that should be prized—the pearls above price. Without them life is at the best but a sham, and not worth a tithe of the labor devoted to its existence. Let us be industrious, but let us not forget that we are robbing ourselves of what money cannot buy when we ignore the softer and more general feelings of our nature—when we look upon the day of rest and the holiday, not as regeneration of our life, spiritual as well as physical, but as blanks in our daily existence.

Mr. Waddell moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said it was a Richfield transaction. He believed the bill had been presented to the court, and that it was discounted.

The following was the report submitted by the committee:

ABSTRACTS.

FOR PURCHASE OF MACDONALD & CO'S STOCK, NOVEMBER, 1864.

Per Books, Receivable

Bankers, as estimated by Mr. Macdonald.

\$15,435.41 \$8,000.00

Office expenses, 55.00

Stationery, 100.00

Postage, 10.00

Law expenses, 1,500.00

Total, 22,045.41

Debts from good assets the following sum to be paid:

Mortage on real estate and fixtures, 1,500.00

Law expenses, 1,500.00

Total, 3,000.00

Current account, 4,600.00

Miners' liabilities, 545.00

Mr. Payne's (finalizing mortgagors), 10,000.00

Demand note in circulation, 900.00

Interest on notes on account, 90.00

Estimated at Macdonald's

by way down, 1,400

Total and discounted, 3,000

Total, 18,734.00

Trade liabilities, 60,000.00

Mr. Waddell remarked that the estimated amount of the debts of the firm was \$75,000 to the dollar, leaving a sum of \$3,000 for the expense of winding up. If the estate went into bankruptcy he did not think it would yield that sum.

Mr. Waddell said it was a Richfield transaction. He believed the bill had been presented to the court, and that it was discounted.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,000 on Mr. McDonald's house, and the sum which was to be foreclosed within 21 days of which had expired. The property ought to fetch \$12,000, and the furniture \$2,000. Everything was now in the hands of the creditors, and he did not think that anything could be done to save the household had been carried from in regard to Mr. McDonald's house.

Mr. Waddell said he believed the matter had been settled.

Mr. MacKay moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that the meeting be adjourned until sufficient time had passed to hear from Mr. McDonald, and that the creditors should then be called to its letters.

Mr. Drake said there was a mortgage of \$6,

